

THE SPECIFICATION

A. Please replace the paragraph at page 4, line 18 through page 5, line 2, with the following replacement paragraph:

C1 In operation, the container 18, with the diffuser 24 attached, is carried aloft by the helicopter 20. When carried aloft, the flexible lines 92 extend downward due to gravity. Because the flexible lines 92 extend to the diffuser outlets 96, as described above with reference to Fig. 1, the diffuser outlets 96 are thus spaced vertically downward from the diffuser inlet 88, as shown in Fig. 1. The container 18 is filled with water from an open water source, such as a lake 100, as shown in Fig. 6. To fill the container 18, the helicopter 20 gradually descends, thereby lowering the container 18 into the lake 100. Water from the lake 100 forces the panel doors 56 (Fig. 5) open and enters the container 18. Opening of the panel doors 56 can be assisted by the motor 66 (Fig. 4). The container 18 is gradually submerged in the lake 100 as it fills with water. Although the rigid lines 90 are totally submerged, the diffuser outlets 96 remain near the surface of the lake 100 due to buoyancy of the balloons 97.

B. Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 11-17, with the following replacement paragraph:

C2 Subsequently, the helicopter 20 transports the container 18 and the diffuser 24 to the forest fire 14 to discharge the water over the fire 14, as shown in Fig. 1. As shown in Fig. 7, while the helicopter 20 is traveling over or hovering over the forest fire 14, the valve 80 is switched to the open condition. This With the container 18 being vented at the open top 40, and also at the orifices 50, this enables water to pass from the container 18 through the container outlets 64 into the diffuser 24, driven only by the force of gravity. The water is forced out of the diffuser outlets 96 into the air by a hydraulic head pressure, corresponding to the height H of the container 18 relative to the diffuser outlets 96.